

## 2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology

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### 1. Department or Agency

Department of Energy

### 2. Fiscal Year

2018

### 3. Committee or Subcommittee

President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology

### 3b. GSA Committee No.

1228

### 4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

### 5. Current Charter

02/12/2018

### 6. Expected Renewal Date

02/12/2020

### 7. Expected Term Date

### 8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

### 8b. Specific Termination Authority

E.O. 13539

### 8c. Actual Term Date

### 9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

### 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

### 10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

### 11. Establishment Authority

Presidential

### 12. Specific Establishment Authority

E.O. 13539 as amended

### 13. Effective Date

04/21/2010

### 14. Committee Type

Continuing

### 14c. Presidential?

Yes

### 15. Description of Committee

National Policy Issue Advisory Board

### 16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this Fiscal Year

### 17a. Open Meetings and Dates 0 17b. Closed Meetings and Dates 0 17c. Partially Closed Meetings and Dates 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total Meetings and Dates 0

No Meetings

### Current FY Next FY

### 18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members

\$0.00 \$0.00

### 18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members

\$0.00 \$0.00

### 18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff

\$0.00 \$0.00

### 18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants

\$0.00 \$0.00

### 18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members

\$0.00 \$0.00

### 18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members

\$0.00 \$0.00

### 18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff

\$0.00 \$0.00

### 18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants

\$0.00 \$0.00

<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.00	0.00

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

PCAST reports directly to the President. The previous Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, Dr. John P. Holdren, also served as PCAST's Co-Chair. PCAST's purpose is twofold: (1) to provide a forum for the private sector (business, academic and non-profit) to discuss with the President and his advisors issues of national or international importance in the broad area of science and technology policy; and (2) to work with the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) to ensure effective communication with the private sector. PCAST prepares written reports where appropriate, including in response to requests from the President to examine particular topics of interest.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

PCAST members were not appointed in FY18, but maybe be appointed in early FY19. Members will be drawn from a list of eminent scientists, engineers, business and non-profit leaders, and educators with expertise on S&T issues. Within that list, members were chosen to provide balance in organizational affiliation (large and small firms, relevant industries, research universities) disciplinary expertise, and geographic residence.

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

PCAST did not have any activities in FY18.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

PCAST will be comprised of eminent individuals who have demonstrated exceptional expertise, judgment and accomplishments. PCAST will provide the venue for convening these very distinguished individuals to advise the President and Vice President on the major S&T policy issues facing the country. While other expert bodies exist at an agency level, only this Committee is appointed directly by the President to serve as his private sector advisors on the full range of S&T issues. The President has also designated PCAST to serve as the presidential-level advisory panels for nanotechnology, and information technology and high end computing, which are advisory panels mandated by statutes.

**20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

PCAST meetings are partially closed to accomodate meetings with the President.

Discussions during meetings with the President can include privileged information, and can involve matters that are to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or foreign policy under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1).

## 21. Remarks

In addition to responding to requests for information, analysis, evaluation, or advice from the President or the Science Advisor, PCAST also serves as the advisory committee identified in subsections 101(b) and 103(b) of the High Performance Computing Act of 1991 (Public Law 102–194), as amended (15 U.S.C. 5511(b) and 5513(b)). In performing the functions of such advisory committee, the PCAST shall be known as the President's Innovation and Technology Advisory Committee (PITAC). PCAST also serves as the advisory panel identified in section 4 of the 21st Century Nanotechnology Research and Development Act (15 U.S.C. 7503) (21st Century Act), and in performing the functions of this advisory committee, the PCAST shall be known as the National Nanotechnology Advisory Panel. In response to requests from the National Science and Technology Council made through the Assistant to the President for Science and Technology, the PCAST shall provide advice from the nonfederal sector to the National Science and Technology Council through the Assistant to the President for Science and Technology. The responsibility for supporting this committee was transferred from the Office of Science and Technology Policy to the Department of Energy during FY 2012-KF-09.05.12. PCAST did not have any activities for FY2018, but members may be appointed in early FY 2019.

## Designated Federal Officer

TBD TBD TBD

## Narrative Description

PCAST provides policy-level advice to the President on science and technology matters. It does not generally provide agency-specific advice on agency operations or programs. During the Obama Administration, PCAST publicly has released 37 reports. These reports contain some recommendations that have implications for agency programs in the respective areas.

## What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety



Trust in government



Major policy changes



- |                                                   |                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Advance in scientific research                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Effective grant making                            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Improved service delivery                         | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Increased customer satisfaction                   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Other                                             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

### Outcome Comments

PCAST has a formal role in reviewing Federal nanotechnology and information technology/high-end computing R&D programs.

### What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- |                            |                                     |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| None                       | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Unable to Determine        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Under \$100,000            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$100,000 - \$500,000      | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$500,001 - \$1,000,000    | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Over \$10,000,000          | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Cost Savings Other         | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

### Cost Savings Comments

PCAST recommendations are not cost-oriented but management and policy oriented.

### What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

37

### Number of Recommendations Comments

PCAST submitted 37 reports to the President. Each report is a considered to be a program recommendation. PCAST did not have any activities for FY2018, but members may be appointed in early FY 2019.

### What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

0%

**% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

Not Applicable

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

100%

**% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

PCAST has evidence that all of the program recommendations have been partially implemented as of September 2017.

**Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

**Agency Feedback Comments**

OSTP, the National Nanotechnology Coordination Office, the NITRD National Coordination Office, and numerous agency representatives have interactive relationships with PCAST. The results of PCAST's reports are discussed with its members on an ongoing basis.

**What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Action Comments**

PCAST recommendations are not of this nature.

**Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

**Grant Review Comments**

N/A

**How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Access Comments**

OSTP supports a website for PCAST and provides information about PCAST and its members upon request.